



Welcome to ParentU with Christopher Perrin

Lesson 3: Classical Education Defined

Outline:

What is classical education?

- The education of the Church over the centuries was classical. Classical and Christian are woven together in a holistic way.
- Beginning in wonder, classical Christian education nurtures the intellectual, moral, aesthetic, spiritual, and physical capacities of students with a rich and ordered course of study. It is grounded in the traditional seven liberal arts, and leading through to language, literature, history, mathematics, natural sciences, fine arts, and philosophy. Premised on the pursuit of truth, goodness, and beauty and governed by the lordship of Jesus Christ the Divine Logos. Classical education aspires to transmit our inherited ecclesiastical and cultural endowment of wisdom, virtue, and excellence to successive generations. Thus cultivating virtuous neighbors and citizens.
 - What does “grounded in the seven liberal arts” mean?
 - The trivium for mastering word
 - The quadrivium of mathematical arts
 - Education is the transmission of the soul of society from one generation to another (G.K. Chesterton).
 - Education is telling the truth to the last baby born (G.K. Chesterton).
 - Humans are being cultivated to flourish (humanitas).
 - Note the divergence from job training (which is sometimes important).
- Classical Christian education is the transformed inheritance of the Greeks and Romans into the culture of the Church that was developed by the Church grounded in piety and governed by theology, employing the historic curriculum and pedagogy of the seven liberal arts in order to cultivate men and women characterized by wisdom, virtue, and eloquence.
 - Paideia is what you did with a child to mature, and cultivate, grow, and develop a child until they were a fully formed human being ready to serve in the community.
 - Paul uses “paideia” in Ephesians 6, “Father’s don’t exasperate your children, but bring raise them up in the discipline and training of the Lord.”
- Abbreviated definitions of classical Christian education:
 - Classical education is the pursuit of wisdom and virtue by means of a rich and ordered course of study grounded in the liberal arts.



- The purpose of a classical Christian education aims at the virtue of wisdom, virtue, and eloquence (to speak a timely word at any time in any place)
- Classical Christian education involves the study of the liberal arts, the natural science, and the great books (under the Lordship of Christ or as it was developed in the church ground by piety and governed by theology).
- Classical education is the study of the liberal arts and the great books (in order to develop humanities).
- Scripture that helps us define classical Christian education.
 - Ephesians 6: Paul uses the phrase “Paideia of the Lord”.
 - Jeremiah 6: Ask where the good way is and walk in it and you will find rest for your souls.